



Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority

15 September 2011

Dear Valued Stakeholder

RE: A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE ENERGY AND WATER SECTOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING AUTHORITY, MR. SENZENI ZOKWANA

As the Chairperson of the newly elected Board of the Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority (EWSETA), I would like to acknowledge and extend my gratitude to each and every one of our stakeholders for your continued commitment in working with the EWSETA towards achieving our vision of being a leading facilitator of world-class skills for the energy and water sectors.

Whereas in the past, stakeholder engagement was sporadic given the pressing need for our focus to be directed at addressing the numerous challenges confronting the EWSETA, the new leadership of the EWSETA has placed communication with our stakeholders at the top of our agenda. This is done in full realisation that the SETA will not be able to deliver successfully on our mandate without the input and support from our stakeholders. Henceforth, our stakeholders will receive regular communication from the EWSETA in an effort to constantly inform, educate and engage.

In this renewed spirit of engagement, I would like to take this opportunity to address an important event that may have some of our stakeholders concerned, once again about the stability of the EWSETA - the sudden departure of the former Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Phakama Nkosi.

In addressing the surrounding circumstances of this very matter and subsequent implementation of temporary measures that will assist in this transitional phase, I believe it imperative for me to briefly touch on the events leading up to the appointment of Mr Nkosi as Acting CEO.

On 17 September 2010, the Honourable Minister of Higher Education and Training officially placed the EWSETA under Administration in terms of Section 15 of the Skills Development Act, as amended.

On the same day the board and Constitution of the EWSETA was suspended and the Administrator, Ms Tsakani Matshazi, assumed the role of Accounting Authority for the remainder of the year.

To assist with the Administration process, Mr. Phakama Nkosi of Phakamole Consulting was appointed as the Acting CEO on 7 October 2010. (In terms of the contract, Mr. Nkosi's term as Acting CEO was due to expire on 7 October 2011). However, following its meeting on 22 August 2011, the Board agreed with Phakamole Consulting on an early termination of the contract. This mutual decision resulted in Mr. Nkosi's last day at the EWSETA being 25 August 2011.

As a way of urgently addressing the leadership vacuum that exists at the EWSETA, the Board requested that the former Administrator, Ms Tsakani Matshazi, assume the role of Acting CEO to support both staff and Board whilst the process of the appointment of a permanent CEO unfolds.

I would like to assure all stakeholders that this action which was taken in order to protect the integrity of the EWSETA, will not affect the EWSETA's operations or performance. Ms Matshazi, together with the Board, remains committed to supporting all staff in meeting their individual performance targets and that of the EWSETA as a whole, particularly as this is a critical time for all SETA's in reporting to the Department of Higher Education and Training.

Above all, the Board's main concern is that the EWSETA continues unabated with delivery on our mandate, through better performance and good corporate governance, to contribute meaningfully to the skills development of our sector and indeed South Africa.

In closing, I would like to appeal to all stakeholders to continue engaging with the EWSETA. Know that your contribution, dedication, perseverance and efforts towards ensuring that the people of South Africa are empowered through skills development, has been the driving force behind the EWSETA's turn around strategy.

This is an important time in the EWSETA's legacy and now more than ever, we urge our stakeholders to come forward and with the EWSETA embrace the spirit of our nation - *TOGETHER, WE CAN DO MORE.*

Should you require any assistance or information with regards to the EWSETA qualifications, learning programmes, Sector Skills Plan or any other sector related matter please contact the EWSETA on (+27 11) 274 4700 or visit our website at www.eseta.org.za.

Yours Sincerely



Senzeni Zokwana
Chairperson